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THE MUSKET

Lexington High School's Student-run Newspaper — since 1969

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Cafeteria puts new technology system in place

By Mark Chonofsky
Editorials Editor

The LHS cafeteria has implemented a new system that changes the way that students order lunch. The cafeteria staff has been planning the change for some time.

"It was approved at the end of the last school year," said Nancy Wiseman, the LPS director of dining services. "It's a really big step in terms of improving the technology."

The goals are "to keep track of things that are being sold ... to also speed – eventually speed –the process, so that people can do their transactions more quickly, and ... to cut down on theft," Principal Cohen said.

The administration has played "very little" role in the switch. "On our part, this was sort of in the works for a long time, and they came to us," Cohen said.

Other schools are using similar systems. It was "aggressive an aggressive system to put in. We put it in nine schools in three days" according to Wiseman. Many more districts appear to use similar methods.

The system is expected to improve efficiency of the lunch buying process.

Cohen points to Weston as a model, where she oversaw a switch to electronic payment. "At Weston ... a system very similar was in place and it really works very smoothly," she said.

Cafeteria employees point to other benefits. "I get to know people. Before, you were just a number passing through me. Now, I see your picture; I can relate your picture to a name," said Virginia Calococci, who serves lunch at LHS.

They also appreciate the new ease of use. "The system is much easier," noted Calococci. "It's getting easier. There are still flaws, which we are working out. Come September, it should be clear sailing."

There is still more change coming. "This fall, we're going to be adding the second piece to it, where people can add money to their account online," added Wiseman.

Students seem to dislike inefficiency in the process. "I hate that the line gets gigantic, so you have

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Staff photo by Chris Alessandrini

Grace Woo waits as sophomore Kiran Mani types in her pin code using the newly implemented lunch system.

Report on user fees brings up questions key to equity

By Noah Karr-Kaitin
Editor-in-Chief

Earlier this year the LHS Senate formed an Ad Hoc Committee to investigate how and why user fees are used to help pay for certain activities at LHS. The result of a year of research can be found in the "Report of the LHS Student-Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on User Fees." The full report can be found on First Class located in the Senate conference, and *The Musket* recommends that all students read the full report.

The Committee was formed with the intention of producing a report that would summarize how user fees work; who has to pay what, how that money is allocated, what other funding is utilized for certain activities, etc. According to a summary published by the LHS Senate the conclusion of the report is that " there is no explicit, articulated policy for apportioning the costs of extracurricular and cocurricular activites between the school department and users/parents."

The conclusion is based off of several examples of inequities that came to light throughout the course of the committee's investigation. For example, many sports teams make up for a lack of funding by charging user fees to those who wish to participate. Other activities like the Speech and Debate Team charge hidden user fees in the form of "suggested donations" that are a little more

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Students carefully balance work & academics

By Abby Heingartner and Zoe Wood
Staff Writers

Feature

Rancatore's, Catch-a-Falling Star, Great Harvest Bread Co., and the Flick. Entirely different entities that share a common characteristic: LHS students can be found working at any of these locations.

With the high school in such close proximity to Lexington's Center, many stores are staffed largely by students. As a result, students can easily swap hours with their coworkers when conflicts arise. At some stores with fewer student workers, the flexibility isn't as great.

"It's very laid back," said senior Helena Hay of her job at the Flick, Lexington's movie theatre and a popular workplace for LHS teenagers. "The people who work there are really fun."

Like many students with jobs, Hay enjoys the social aspect of having a job, in addition to the pay. People who might otherwise be strangers become friends in settings like the Flick. Elise Yost, a junior who works at Great Harvest, enjoys the quirky customers she encounters at her job, as they can make the job amusing.

For many, though, money is the primary motivation in balancing academics and a job.

"I'm trying to work my way toward a car," said junior Lora Dunn-Hardy. With the satisfaction of earning one's own money can also bring with it a sense of independence from parents. Particularly for seniors who will soon be living on their own, workplace experience — making money and spending it wisely — is invaluable.

At times, however, having a job can be a serious balancing act.

"There are times when I've had to forego homework," said Dunn-Hardy. She isn't the only one whose job has cut into her schoolwork.

Eliza Strauss, a senior who works at Rancatore's, mentioned that when work runs late, starting homework at 11:30 p.m. can be "kinda painful." Students with extracurricular activities find it especially difficult to find time to work. For some, these activities limit their availability on weekends.

It is to be expected that having a job can conflict with student life. For most who work, however, the benefits outweigh the drawbacks.

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to be the first one there, or else you don't get lunch," said freshman Ben Chomitz.

Calococci offers an explanation. "A lot of them are not remembering their PIN numbers. I make them stand aside ... Kids in kindergarten, first grade, know their PIN number."

Wiseman explained that this might be temporary. "In all schools it slowed lines down; but once students learned their pin numbers things went back to normal."

She also added, "It would work better if people put money into their account."

Nathan Basch, a freshman, echoes the sentiment of many students. "I don't want to remember a stupid number."

The lunch company likes the increased information that the new system provides. Wiseman added, "We have problems every day with people trying steal things ... We'll be able to track and define the issue."

The distribution of free and reduced price lunch tickets is part of that problem, and students noticed it. "People used to hand out lunch tickets to other kids," said Garfield Riley, a freshman.

"It was out of control," said Principal Cohen.

Moreover, says Wiseman, "it will provide an opportunity to have allergy alerts [and] it's great information in terms of reporting."

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"I felt like I needed more independence," said Strauss.

Junior Sophie Durant agreed, saying that having control over her own income is one of the main reasons she's looking for work earning money. Working provides many students with experience for later jobs and the ability to function under a boss as well as around other colleagues.

As father of senior Helena Hay pointed out, "[working] provides some lessons that cannot be taught in school."

While many students have jobs, there is also a large population at the high school that doesn't work. Some students are simply too busy, whether the cause is sports, school work, or other activities. Others would like to have a job, but have been unable to find one or are discouraged by their parents. Some parents worry that a job will overshadow their son or daughter's school work or lead to extra stress and not enough sleep.

Students have made it clear, however, that having a job is certainly doable. Time management skills as well as a willingness to commit are necessary, but students find that the benefits are worth the effort.

After all, said Hay, "I get free popcorn."

The Musket would like wish this year's graduating editors all the best in their future endeavors.
You set the bar.
Thanks for all your hard work.

-The 'left behind' Musket Staff '08-'09

Comic by senior Ryan Maher

Living the vegetarian life in the LHS commons

By Rebecca Galin
Staff Writer

It's lunch time. You've made it through at least three classes. And you're hungry.

When arriving in either one of the LHS cafeterias, you may be daunted by the myriad of choices you can purchase for lunch. But how many choices are there if you are a vegetarian or vegan student? Although there are not as many vegetarian choices as non-vegetarian choices, you may be surprised to find that the cafeteria does have some food for us non-meat eaters.

At LHS we vegetarians have a moderate number of lunches to purchase. When asked her opinion of vegetarian choices at the high school, freshman Tova Weinronk said "Being a vegetarian, I like how there are still many different selections for me to choose from every day. I can have numerous different meals including pizza, pasta, bagels, grilled cheese, and sometimes there are vegetarian soups and main dishes available."

Although vegetarian students can purchase meals such as stuffed shells and veggie burgers, we do not have as many options as non-vegetarian students. I believe this is unfair, and that there should be as many vegetarian choices as non vegetarian choices. Why should a meat eater have more to choose from then someone who is a vegetarian or a vegan? Just because they are the majority at our school? Meat eaters can eat vegetarian and vegan foods, but vegetarians and vegans can not eat food with meat.

Additionally, as a vegetarian student, there are very few healthful lunch choices to buy. Currently, there are one or two healthy vegetarian options everyday, and significantly more healthy meat options. If I do not want to eat pizza, bagels, or cocoa puffs every day, I am stuck with roasted veggies. LHS may have many more vegetarian choices than other schools in the area, but it is still not enough.

Many students at LHS, omnivores and herbivores alike, also purchase snacks and side dishes with their main choices. Almost all of the chips, cookies, and vending machine goodies are vegetarian as well.

On the other hand, vegan students are not so lucky. Like any restaurant or supermarket, vegan choices are not as popular as vegetarian or meat options. Because the amount of students who would buy a meal that has no meat, dairy, or fish in it is so small, adding a vegan main choice to the cafeteria could be economically challenging.

Moreover, vegan students still have a few options. They can buy bagels (without the cream cheese) as well as the salad and roasted vegetables that are offered daily. These vegetables include but are not limited to zucchini, onion, peppers, carrots and summer squash.

LHS is known for being a welcoming and open community that strives to accommodate all of its students' needs. This includes the food.

THE MUSKET

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THE MUSKET

Senior destinations

Zachary Abdu-Glass	Middlebury College
Abela, Daniele	Northeastern University
Abramo, Zachary	University of North Carolina, Wilmington
Abramson, Benjamin	Goucher College
Adamian, Alec	
Adams, William	
Adhanom, Kathleen	
Ahmed, Zaihra	Bates College
Alexandre, Jean-Paul	University of Hartford
Allen, Bobby	
Almeida, Charlotte	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Amsel, Benjamin	Goucher College
Andre, Gabriel	Curry College
Angelo, Sheila	Middlesex Community College
Antounian, Tanya	
Arbesfeld, Noah	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Archer, Luke	
Aspell, Rebecca	
Athens, Andrea	
Atkins, Lara	Colorado College
Austin, Hadas	Israeli Army
Avallone, Michael	Syracuse University
Azuakolam, Chidima	University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
Bailey, Katharine	University of Vermont
Balsom, Leo	Lehigh University
Bandarage, Dileni	Boston University
Baron, Roy	Champlain College
Basmajian, Michael	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Belding, Atsuko	Moving
Berkowitz, Maggie	University of Delaware
Berners-Lee, Alice	New York University
Bernitz, Nathaniel	University of Puget Sound
Bitton, Vanessa	Lesley University
Blake, Eric	Roger Williams University
Blumenthal, Max	Cornell University
Bodony, Holly	University of Pittsburgh
Boggan, Lauren	Bentley University
Bond Jr, Edward	Taking a year off
Bond, Stephanie M	Smith College
Bond, Stephanie C	Bowdoin College
Boo, Hyun Ji	McGill University
Boreiko, John	Year off, then Brown University
Bourque, Corbin	
Bowen, Anna	
Bowling, Julia	Oberlin College
Boxer, Jeffrey	Brandeis University
Brainard, Douglas	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Breakstone, Simon	The University of Arizona
Brett, Anne	
Briggs, Peter	
Briggs, Priscilla	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Brown, Alexandra	Bowdoin College
Brown, Rilie	Assumption College
Bullock, Nina	College
Bumbaca, Carl	
Byrne, Sean-Paul	Defferring a year to travel abroad
Caesar-Roden, Daniela	
Campbell, Derek	
Cancre, Lucile	University of Maryland, College Park
Cannon, Steven	Champlain College
Caporal, Coco	Loyola Marymount University
Carius, Randy	
Carlson, Ripley	Vanderbilt University
Carr, Jacqueline	
Casey, Ryan	New York University
Celine, Aviv	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Chan, Erika	
Chan-Tse, Catherine	Boston University
Chaput, Nicole	Arizona State University
Chaulet, Lorna	Springfield College
Chen, Ruiyong	Georgetown University
Chipalkatti, Adit	Babson College
Chiu, Christopher	University of Rochester
Cho, John	Amherst College
Chu, Eric	Syracuse University
Chun, Stephanie	
Chung, Karina	Wellesley College
Churchill, Kyle	
Clarke, John	
Coble, Leia	
Colosimo, Courtney	Mount Ida College
Compton, Avery	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Conaway, Lydia	Springfield College
Constanti, Lucas	
Cooledge, Patrick	
Cooper, Yonatan	Bowdoin College
Costello, Joseph	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Coyne, Kimberly	
Crittenden, Andrew	Northeastern University
Cullen Ii, Terrence	Amherst College
Cusack, Ross	
Cyr, Micaela	Harvard University
Dalwin, Stephanie	Johns Hopkins University
Davidson, Caroline	Macalester College
Davidson, Diane	
Davis, Paul	Carnegie Mellon University
Day, Edward	The College of Wooster
Decarlo, Joseph	University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
Decristo, Allison	Catholic University of America
Desmond, Angela	Boston College
Deutsch, Zoe	New England Culinary Institute
Devenney, Eric	Clark University
Ding, Lydia	Columbia University
Dion, Peter	Suffolk University
Donnelly, Shannon	
Doxsey, Sarah	University of Maine, Presque Isle
Druga, Andrea	University of Delaware
Dufault, Eric	Lasell College
Duffy, Karen	Cornell University
Dunn, Alexandra	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Duperey, Gregory	
Duval, Alexander	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Estes, David	Ithaca College
Evans, Jessica	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Evans, Maura	Syracuse University
Everson, Clark	
Fakharzadeh, Lila	Wellesley College
Feehan, Daniel	United States Army
Feifke, Steven	New York University
Fernandes, Caroline	
Fernandez, Anthony	
Finch, Nathaniel	University of Hartford
Finucane, James	Connecticut College
Fiola, Jessica	Mount Holyoke College
Fiore, Gabrielle	St. Francis Xavier University
Fishman, Hayley	University of Maryland, College Park
Fitzgerald, Ashley	
Flaherty, Daniel	Boston College
FletcherJones, Alexandra	University of Virginia
Flores-Hurlbert, Cameron	
Flori, Julianna	
Fontaine, Alyssa	Boston College
Fontanez, Tiffany	
Fopiano, Melissa	Connecticut College
Forlenza,Christopher	Denison University
Foss, Melissa	University of Hartford
Fouhy, Liam	
Freitas, Raphael	College
Friedman, Jacob	University of Michigan
Frishberg, Allison	American University
Fry, Jeremy	Suffolk University
Fuhrman, Isaac	Colorado College
Gabrenya, Matthew	Brandeis University
Galin, Hannah	Wellesley College
Gallewale, Abha	Tufts University
Ganiatsos, James	
Garcia, Diego	Boston University
Geldart, Steven	
Gelinas, Nicole	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Gentile, Marie	Lesley University
George, Michael	University of Miami
Giangregorio,Mchael	Costal Carolina
Gilbert, Jeffrey	Lehigh University
Giliberto, Joseph	Syracuse University
Godfrey, Micaela	
Goetz, Victoria	Boston College
Gold, Edward	Northeastern University
Golovato, Andrew	University of Wisconsin
Goolkasian, Alexis	Rollins College
Goplerud, Keith	Northeastern University
Gordon, Sabrina	Tufts University
Goulet, Tyler	Indiana University, Bloomington
Grady, Rachel	McGill University
Grattaroti, Michael Green, Laura	Vassar College
Greene, Lance	
Gregg, Emily	Kenyon College
Grewal, Neha	University of Connecticut
Grimson, Marc	
Grunberg, Theodore	John Hopkins University
Gutkin-Nicolas, Dominic	
Haider, Hiba	Babson College
Halsell, Cheyenne	College
Han, Dongwon	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Hancock, Elaina	State University of New York, Geneseo
Hankins, Joseph	
Hannon, Larry	College
Harvey, Elana	Dean College
Hay, Helena	Washington University in St. Louis
Hebert-Johnson, Sarah	Ithaca College
Heingartner, Sarah	
Heinze Fry, Ayla	University of Pittsburgh
Heitz, Catherine	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Henoch, Kate	
Henrie, Alexander	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Henshaw, Emily	Bates College
Hernandez, Jorge	Salem State College
Herndon, Christopher	Oberlin College
Hersey, Chantal	University of San Francisco
Hevroni, Gil	Brandeis University
Hewitt, Tyler	
Heyda, Lauren	
Hild, Helen	Louisiana State University
Hiller, Christopher	Year in Australia then university in St. Louis
Ho, Michelle	Washington University in St. Louis
Hogan, Julie	Northeastern University
Holloway, Daron	Clemson University
Holloway, Devon	Virginia State
Holt, Edmund	
Hossain, Raheeq	College
Howe, Katherine	Wellesley College
Hsu, Calvin	Rutgers University
Hsu, Michael	Bryant University
Hu, Jonathan	Boston University
Huang, William	Carnegie Mellon University
Hunt, Dmitry	
Hur, Young Jin	Parsons the New School of Design
Hurley, Theodore	
Hurowitz, Michael	Ursinus College
Igoe, Michael	Roger Williams University
Ip, Natalie	Bentley University
Isaacs, Matthew	Bates College
Jackson, Joshua	McGill University
Jaillet, Xavier	Working & traveling
Jain, Shefali	Yale University
Janney, Lillian	Yale University
Jayakumar, Sriram	College
Jenness, Bridgette	
Jhe, June	Carnegie Mellon University
Jick, Sarah	Oberlin College
Johnson, Travis	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Johnston, Samuel	Brigham Young University
Joseph,Takiyah-Jean	
Kalloo, Somiya	University of New Hampshire
Kang, Ha-Eun	
Kao, Eric	Washington University in St. Louis
Kaplan, Hannah	Washington University in St. Louis
Kaplan, Lily	Wesleyan University
Karr Kaitin, Noah	Cornell University
Katz, Daniel	Kenyon College
Katz, Nathan	Northwestern University
Keane, Kellie	
Keefe, Amanda	
Keegan, Lindsay	
Keeping, Margaret	University of Toronto
Keller, Elizabeth	Carnegie Mellon University
Kelley, Leo	
Kelley, Pearce	Hofstra University
Kenny, Timothy	Tufts University
Keohane, Hadley	Vassar College
Kim, Brian	
Kim, Marianne	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Kim, Sang-Ho	Rhode Island School of Design
King, Eric	Binghamton University
Kingsford, Jason	
Kinstler, Linda	Bowdoin College
Kishimoto, Laura	Rhode Island School of Design
Kitayama, Yui	Wellesley College
Klinga, John, Jr.	University of Massachusetts
Kofoed, Heather	University of Alabama
Kontoff, Angela	
Korn, Richard	College
Kouri, Ana	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Krishnan, Sumitra	Merrimack College
Kumar, Apoorv	University of Chicago
Kurien, Joe	Northeastern University

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The Musket is proud to present "Senior Destinations," our annual compilation of the various plans for the graduating Class of 2009. This information has been submitted by students voluntarily to *The Musket* and has no relation to any information being gathered by the Guidance Department or Registrar. This list may not be reproduced without written permission.

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Kwass, Daniel	Case Western Reserve University
Kwon, Juneau	Rochester Institute of Technology
Lacey, Laura	
Lapuck, Hannah	Suffolk University
Larose, Jean	
Leader, Jessica	Franklin and Marshall College
Lee, Alice	Clark University
Lee, Bo-Reum	Johnson & Wales University
Lee, Garrett	Boston University
Lee, Gi Eun	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Lee, Kyumin	
Lee, Wang Youl	Georgia Institute of Technology
Leichtman, Devon	Washington University of Technology
Leonard, Sean	
Leone, Sophia	Clark University
Leung, Joshua	
Leung, Steven	University of Pennsylvania
Levien, Ethan	
Li, Jonathan	Duke University
Liu, Alina	Cornell University
Livneh, Talia	Carnegie Mellon University
Logan III, John	Indiana University, Bloomington
Logan, Rachel	McGill University
Longo, Michael	University of Maine, Orono
Lucke, Sabina	University of Redlands
Ludlow, Hilary	Tufts University
Lutz, Larissa	
Luz-Alterman, Jeffrey	Tufts University
Lynn, Ciera	Working
Lyons, Ian	Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus
Macdonald, Chloe	
Maclellan, Cassandra	Suffolk University
Maher, Ryan	University of Vermont
Mahler, Coleman	Brandeis University
Majette, Ralph	Middlesex Community College; then UMass
Malm, Rhonda	
Mamounas, George	
Mandl, Benjamin	
Manlief, Dorothy	
Maradianos, Maria	Boston University
Marcantonio, Evan	University of Rochester
Markovitz, Raviv	Columbia University
Marshall, Eric	University of New Hampshire
Martel, Christopher	
Marten, Timothy	College
Mathews, Adelaide	
Mattson, Amanda	Hartwick College
Mccarthy, James	
Mcconnell, Laura	Roger Williams
Mcdonald-Games, Sofia	
Mcdonnell, Robert	
Mcdonough, David	Westfield State College
Mcdonough, Sarah	Westfield State College
Mckenna Ii, Stephen	University of Rhode Island
Mclaughlin, Sarah	High Point University
Medina, Bianca	Simmons College
Megill, Robin	University of Vermont
Melenteyv, Victoria	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Melton, Samuel	Harvard University
Menon, Arvind	
Meskill, Phoebe	
Meyers, Nathan	Bowdoin College
Miller, Anzel	
Miller, Emily	Colgate University
Miller, Zachary	University of New Hampshire
Millon, Julia	University of Colorado, Boulder
Milosavljevic, Mina	
Min, Seok Kee	Lehigh University
Mislan, Hannah	Year off, then Santa Clara University
Mistri, Bhavik	College
Mitchell, Carolyn	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Moresco, Edgar	
Moscatel, John	Bridgton Academy
Murray, Emma	Tulane University
Musicus, Aviva	Yale University
Muszynski, Michael	Williston Northampton School
Naidu, Akash	
Nene, Ajinkya	Boston University
Nesline, Kevin	American University
Neumann, Anna	Northeastern University
Neumann, Katherine	
Nezuh, Sophia	Bentley University
Nijhawan, Rohan	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
Norris, Stephanie	
Nosack, William	Johnson & Wales University
O'Brien, Amy	
O'Donoghue, Kalya	Rhode Island School of Design
O'Hanley, Luke	Plymouth State University
O'Keefe, Daniel	Bentley University
Olsen, Andrew	University of California, Los Angeles
Orlov, Alexandra	Hamilton College
Otero, William	
Ozer, Joshua	Brandeis University
Paduano, Claire	
Pan, Junhua	
Panak, Victor	
Pardes, Derek	Northwestern University
Parhiala, Mary	Stony Brook University
Park, Seo Young	Brandeis University
Parker, Mariliza	New York University
Parrish, Alexander	New York University
Patrick, Marc	Occidental College
Paulson, Noah	Tufts University
Pellegrini, Gregory	Northeastern University
Pellegrino, Nicholas	
Pennant, Takiya	
Pettway, Taymara	
Peugh, Ryan	
Phelan, Andrew	
Piesie, Baffour	Middlesex Community College
Pilch, Cassandra	
Pittore, Rebecca	Boston University
Potter, Cora	Goucher College
Prescilla, Kevin	Regis College
Pryor, James	Temple University
Pulde, Sasha	Georgetown University
Raja, Priya	University of Chicago
Rancatore, John	
Randolph, Leeann	
Rauscher, Phillip	Emory University
Reyes-Ortiz, Christopher	
Riley, Allan	Middlesex Community College
Rioff, Tyler	
Robinson, Matthew	
Rodríguez, Armando	
Roebroek, Sebastiaan	
Rollinger, Harris	Clark University
Ron, Daniel	Carnegie Mellon University
Rose, Matthew	
Ross, David	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Rossi, Robert	Boston College
Rowe, Taylor	Elmira College
Ruggiero, Marika	American University
Ruml, Alden	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Ruocco, Lorraine	Assumption College
Ruocco, Sydney	Westfield State College
Russell, James	Arizona State University
Russo, Amanda	Lasell College
Rutila, Elizabeth	
Saarinen, Timothy	
Sadeghi, John	Traveling & attening CMU
Sahasrabudhe, Akshata	Boston University
Sanon, Ricardo	Marshall University
Savage, John	
Saveriano, Katherine	University of Connecticut
Saxena, Paramvyom	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Scannell, Alana	University of New Hampshire
Schaefer, Dustin	George Washington University
Schaeffer, Lewis	
Schembor, Stefan	Tulane University
Schlecht, Derek	Syracuse University
Schultz, Elizabeth	University of New Hampshire
Schwartz, Esther	
Segall, Nicola	Carnegie Mellon University
Segreve, Sean	
Sekula, Jennifer	Columbia University
Serdar, Luka	
Serio, Salvatore	
Sewell, Derek	Ithaca College
Shah, Shreya	
Sharer, Michelle	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Sheedy, Edward	Norwich University
Sheehan, Amanda	Emmanuel College
Sheen, Soun	
Shen, Hao	Georgetown University
Sheridan, Anna	
Shevrin, Brian	Ithaca College
Shin, Dong Brian	Brandeis University
Sicari, Davina	Merrimack College
Siegel, Hilary	
Silberman, Andrew	Syracuse University
Sillari, Emily	Tufts University
Silliman, Mikko	Tufts University
Silverman, Jaymie	University of Delaware
Simmons, Eric	Southern Methodist University
Slane, Anna	University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
Sleiman, Rami	Trinity College
Slone, Mariah	DePaul University
Smith, Kiel	
Smoot, Daniel	Connecticut College
Soley, Micheline	Yale University
Solomon, Amy	Wheaton College
Solomon, Rose	Colby College
Sommer, Sophia	Colgate University
Srinivas, Etasha	Traveling aborad
Srinivasan, Nikita	Georgetown University
Stamas, Benjamin	
Starr-Phillips, Grady	Lewis & Clark College
Steele, Matthew	
Stein, Carolyn	Harvard University
Sterman, Sarah	
Stewart, Ian	
Stitt, Diane	Quinnipiac University
Stocki, John	
Stone, Joshua	Union College
Strauss, Eliza	California Institute of the Arts
Stuart, Katherine	Boston University
Studeny, Jane	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Swanson, Benjamin	Gettysburg College
Swanson, Kevin	Wheaton College
Swoyer, Jessica	
Tai, Eric	Northwestern University
Tanner, Brendan	Champlain College
Taranto, Brandon	
Tatsukawa, Maya	Washington University, St. Louis
Taves, John	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Taylor, Maxwell	Taking a year off, then college
Teng, Christopher	
Tkachov, Nikita	University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Tomlinson, Christian	
Townzen, Rachel	Vanderbilt University
Tsurumaki, Masato	Westfield State
Turner, Jae'Da	Northeastern University
Tynan, Patrick	University of Texas, Austin
Tyson, Dina	Barnard College
Ulmer, Christian	University of California, Berkeley
Varteresian, William	Tufts University
Vesprini, Alexander	University of Hartford
Villari, Rachel	The College of Wooster
Virgile, Adam	Springfield College
Vittal, Christopher	Reed College
Walsh, Brian	
Wang, Amy	Wellesley College
Wang, Peter	New York University
Ward, Colleen	Quinnipiac University
Waters, Christopher	Colorado College
Weiner, Leah	McGill University
Weinronk, Dalya	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Whelan, Matthew	
Whitman, Jennifer	Boston University
Whitney, Sarah	Syracuse University
Williams, Austin	
Williams, Christopher	
Willins, Melanie	University of Maryland
Wilson, Ashley	Quinnipiac University
Wilson, Herbert	
Wilson, Renee	Boston College
Winn, Joseph	
Wiryaman, Timothy	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Wong, Amanda	Boston University
Xu, Max	Brandeis University
Yang, Chen	
Yang, Danica	Barnard College
Yeh, Alec	Taking a year off, then Harvard University
Yen, David	University of California, Santa Barbara
Yiu, Momoko Yi	Middlesex Community College
Yoon, Soo Mee	Goerge Washington University
Yoskowitz, Noah	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Zaczkiewicz, Thomas	University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
Zahka, Joelle	Marist College
Zallas, Alexis	
Zandi, Gabrielle	Tufts University
Zhang, Thomas	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Zhao, Irene	
Zheng, Julia	
Zhuo, Yue	University of Toronto
Zimmermann, Martha	University of Southern California

Spring play 'Sings' of hope and loss to wowed audiences

By Mia Karnofsky
News Editor

LHS' spring play, "With the Needle That Sings in Her Heart," impressed the audience with its imagination and originality. Though the show's collaboration with Dresden Dolls singer Amanda Palmer (LHS grad, 1994) certainly garnered attention, the fact that it was written completely by the cast and crew can account for much of the community's excitement.

The cast planned, workshopped and rehearsed intensively for about three months — in addition to improvising scenes inspired by the Neutral Milk Hotel album "In the Aeroplane Over the Sea," which itself was based on the story of Anne Frank.

The plot was crafted around the experiences of Anne Frank from her home in Amsterdam to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp; the play does take considerable artistic license in juxtaposing the two sources. The play intersperses barren Holocaust imagery and moments of dark terror with surreal scenes of colorful jest that underscores the absurdity of the prisoners' condition.

In an early scene Anne recites a passage from the optimistic beginning of her diary over the song "Communist Daughter," which depicts her initial hope. Sometime after Anne (freshman Emma Feinberg) and her sister Margot (fresman Rebecca Reibstein) arrive at the camp, they encounter the glamorous Bensassi sisters, played with outrageous irony by seniors Katie Henoch and Eliza Strauss. The stars explain to the Frank girls that they must embrace fear. They claim that fear stands for "Fabulous, Exciting, Astonishing, and Raunchy."

Still, Anne and Margot's faith inevitably deteriorates as they witness and endure the horrific events that transpire at Bergen-Belsen.

Later, Anne and Margot encounter three Greek gods, played by seniors Roy Baron, Alex Parrish and junior Aaron Holtzclaw. The circus-like interaction ends in a big laugh, but Anne snaps back to reality when Nazi officers kill a pregnant woman (senior Mariah Slone) they had been holding at the side of the stage in the dark.

Staff photo by Chris Alessandrini

Juniors Gabriela Goszczynska (foreground) and Rachel Iba (middleground) in LHS' original production "With the Needle That Sings in Her Heart" — as Alex Parrish (background) proves musical accompaniment.

They force Anne and Margot to return from their joyful fantasy and drag the body to a grave.

The ensemble cast artfully represented the play's mood swings between chaos and solemnity, and the set and costume design reflected both the dreadful experiences of Holocaust victims with dreary colors, as well as the brighter view of art and music coming out of such tragic conditions.

Alex Parrish played the energetic MC who performed most of the songs.

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STAND, Amnesty International's Silent Art Auction draws attention to quieted topics

Staff photo by Chris Alessandrini

Prospective buyers contemplate the works of art at Amnesty International's Silent Auction on May 30th in the Lexington Depot Building.

By Nikita Nadkarni
A&E Editor

On Saturday evening, May 30th Lexington High School clubs Amnesty International and STAND co-hosted the Benefit Silent Art Auction and Sale. The groups rented out the Lexington Depot Building for the auction. Between sixty to seventy pieces were available for auction, which was much more than the clubs expected. All the art was donated by local artists ranging in value from five dollars to a beautiful landscape painting valued at $5,800. The creator of the piece, Robert Cipriani, happened to be cleaning out his studio when he received the request for a donation and generously gave away several paintings.

Other pieces included a handmade African cloth quilt, large origami pieces, and beautiful beaded cutlery sets. Especially interesting were some glass pendants that encased a tessellation made from slices of colored pencils. Others included pieces by Lexington High School teachers Mr. Steven Bogart who donated two paintings and Ms. Mahoney who donated a gorgeous vase. Each piece was accompanied by a sheet for the bidder to sign on. The sheet indicated the given value, minimum bid and price increments as well as the title of the piece and the artist.

The event featured about sixty student pieces. Although some were up for auction, most of the student pieces were for sale, ranging in price from a dollar to twenty dollars. The pieces included framed photographs, graphite sketches, handmade jewelry and an amazing watercolor piece by junior Melissa Tang. Each piece had been given a small sticker indicating the price.

The club members additionally staffed the event and performed tasks such as taking admission fees at the door, making and organizing the refreshments and snacks (some of which were donated by local businesses), and ushering auctioneers around the tables. While the entire club was involved in organizing the event, the main organizers were seniors Caroline Davidson, Emma Murray, Ruiyong Chen and junior Hiba Dhanani. They also coordinated the music, a performance by the Boston Latin Band Combo. The members were also providing information to the guests about the supported charities. Amnesty International planned to donate the revenue to the Free the Children foundation to build a school in Kenya, as well as the One2One Children's Fund, which provides education to underprivileged children in the Vrygrond Squatter Camp in South Africa. STAND aimed to donate the proceeds from the event to The Genocide Intervention Network's Civilian Protection Programs in Darfur and Burma.

Overall, the proceeds totaled at least a few thousand with the highest bid at $700. Around one hundred people came to the auction over the course of the night, surprising the organizers as they did not have an estimate as to how many people were coming.

When asked if the event met with their expectations, senior organizer Ruiyong Chen said "Yes, we definitely would call this a success. Many ... people came just to look at the art, listen to the music and enjoy the refreshments ... Either way, we made people aware of the situations towards which we were raising money while having a great time!"

An inside look at Lexington's premier Improv Troupe

By Abha Gallewale
Editor-in-Chief

While most students are at home doing homework on Tuesday evenings, ten LHS students are still at school for two more hours in the Blackbox Theater. Playing improvisational games with lots of audience interaction, the members of the LHS Improv Troupe seekto entertain with their hilarious comedy and astoundingly sharp comebacks.

The troupe members must overcome a grueling audition process to gain a coveted spot, which varies annually depending on the number of seniors that graduate the previous year. Current Troupe-er and senior Alden Ruml says he decided to try out because "those on Troupe appeared to be focused and applied in their craft."

Those who audition must show excellent comedic timing, ability to interact with the audience while thinking on their feet, and absolutely zero stage fright. According to Ruml, "a key element of Improv is 'making those around you look good.'" All of their performances are completely improvisational because the audience chooses a setting, emotion, and character for them.

How then can the Improv Troupe possibly rehearse if everything is improvised? The specific games that the troupe plays at the shows are decided beforehand, crafting each show to "showcase [its] desires and strengths." This way, Troupe-ers can get their creativity flowing by playing these specific games while thinking with a certain mindset. Experimenting with two kinds

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Staff photo by Chris Alessandrini

Tony Porter, Lexington Public Schools Athetlic Director for eight years, retires this year — passing the baton over to Naomi Martin, effective July 1.

Lexington loses an institution in the retirement of Athletic Director

By Jacob Friedman
Sports Editor

All it takes to get a feel for Lexington sports is to walk four steps through the double doors of the main entrance to Lexington High School. The first thing one sees upon entering LHS, a school with some of the best mathematicians and scientists in the country and that sends five to ten students to Harvard every year, is the sports trophy case. That trophy case is filled with Middlesex League Championships in almost all of the twenty-plus varsity sports as well as several individual awards — in addition to fifteen MIAA sportsmanship awards in the past four years.

All fifteen of those sportsmanship awards, as well as all the other trophies and awards that reside in that trophy case, have come in the past eight years, during which time Anthony Porter has been the Athletic Director. When asked to reflect on his forty years at Lexington, the final eight of which he spent as the AD, one would expect him to immediately dive into all the championships that Lexington has won under him. Yet, Porter's initial response is more reflective.

"I consider my self kind of a historian now," said Porter.

With forty years of Lexington High School sports under his belt; assistant coaching positions for football, basketball and baseball; five years as the head coach of wrestling; thirteen years as the director of Middlesex league track; thirty two years as a physical education teacher and a coach; two years as the department chair of physical education; and eight years as the AD, Porter is more than a historian: he is a piece of history.

> ***"You are always just one play away from your athletic career being over ... [but] nobody can take your education away from you."***
>
> *-Tony Porter*

Porter reminisces on how the '70s were tough years because of the Vietnam War and the drug abuse during that time period. He can tell stories from the 1984 football team that won the Middlesex League title and made the Superbowl. He can tell you about Ronny Lee, a former LHS student who went on to be a top five pick in the NBA draft.

But it is the man himself that Lexington athletics will miss; the stories will survive.

Porter is a man who loves Lexington. Although when asked what he would have done differently, Porter quotes Frank Sinatra, saying, "I did it my way," he hopes the next AD will be more successful. He encourages the incoming AD to get their hands dirty and warns that it is a people job. Porter, who is at heart a family man, points out that this position leads to little to no life outside of the job. What many people do not realize is that everything in sports in the town of Lexington associated with schools goes through Porter. That includes everything from the ninety-eight teams that the high school and the two middle schools have, to before- and after-school sports at the elementary schools. As Porter puts it, "anything you see I am responsible for ... everything from beginning to finish." That includes transportation, the hiring of coaches, equipment, and keeping an eye on the athletes.

Deep down, Porter cares about the young adults who play under him and their futures as people much more than their futures as athletes. He encourages students to put academics first when choosing colleges because, as he puts it, "you are always just one play away from your athletic career being over ... [but] nobody can take your education away from you." Porter may not be perfect, but in his eight years as athletic director he has almost unanimously completed the ultimate goal of having Lexington High School athletes leave the program as better people.

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He informed the audience at the start – and reminded them throughout the show – that "this is the end of the world."

The play continually gave the audience humor and glimpses of happiness, then snatched them right back. The actors successfully portrayed the stark reality of genocide; they made us feel guilty for laughing, reminding us moments after a lighthearted scene of its victims' fate.

Bringing such a profound vision to the stage is a seemingly unimaginable feat for high school students, but the show proves that it can be done.

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of improvisation — short-form and long-form — Troupe members bounce different ideas off of each other by trying out different routines. In short-form, short scenes are constructed with the framework of a game, and individual scenes are in no way related with each other. Long-form, on the other hand, features a set of several scenes which share a common theme, characters, or storyline.

According to Ruml, "Long-form is like a secret family recipe; it takes time and patience. Short-form is like a value meal; it's tasty but common."

During one short-form game, the actors form three lines on opposite sides of the room. The first people in two of these lines choose characters and they meet at the middle of the stage. One of these people must decide the identity of the third person, who then assumes that character instantly. This identity can be concrete, with characters like Santa Clause or lemonade, or completely abstract, such as the manifestation of a childhood trauma.

After performing the scene, the three move to the back of different lines, and the cycle repeats. Troupe-ers formed a circle to begin a long-form game. Every member looked to their left and the person that they saw was to become their "partner," although no two people had each other. The circle dispersed and three of its members, after asking for a setting from the audience, began to form a scene.

At certain points, Improv Troupe's advisor, drama teacher Steven Bogart called for them to switch. At this point, all three members of the original scene were replaced by those who called them their "partners." These actors had to assume the characters left behind by the original three and continue the same scene, adding their own plot to its storyline.

Troupe shows promise delight, relaxation, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening for all who attend, including the performers themselves. Be sure to catch the Improv Troupe shows next year with a few new Troupe-ers.

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than just suggested. Many parents end up paying hundreds of dollars a year, allowing students to simply enroll and fulfill the requirements of a course. There are also activities that are funded entirely by the school. Examples of which include some math and science teams, some music programs, and some drama programs. Both music and debate are co-curricular activities that spend money on traveling, however the musicians' travels are funded at least partially by the school, while debaters entirely self-finance.

Furthermore, while athletes all pay the same $300 user fee, the Senate found that the actual costs per athlete, per sport, varies from approximately $200 per participant for boys and girls cross country to over $1000 and over $1300 for boys and girls hockey respectively.

The report ends with several questions for the reader. The first: "is there a consistent educational philosophy underlying decisions of partial funding of school programs?" The Senate concluded that "programs funded entirely by taxpayers are, implicitly, considered essential parts of a public education by the School Committee." By that logic, club activities, which are entirely student organized and funded, have to be considered to not be considered essential parts of a Lexington High School education."

Another question raised is whether "a student [should] be compelled to fund another's extracurricular activity?" The report notes that there are four sports — boys and girls cross country and boys and girls indoor track — whose participants "pay over 100% of the costs of their programs, even including administrative overhead."

The report makes no conclusion as to what should be done about this system of inequities but does state that "it is hard to justify charging hockey parents for all of $32,000 of ice time. Likewise, it is difficult to justify passing this expense exclusively to other students who do athletics at LHS."

The Senate also pointed out to the readers of the report that, "the school can avoid all issues of equity by fully funding athletics, as several neighboring towns continue to do. The cost would be well under 1% of the total LPS budget."

The report makes several strong arguments and has already been submitted to LHS Principal Natalie Cohen and Superintendent of Lexington Public Schools Dr. Paul Ash. The Senate also plans to take the report to the School committee and hopes to have them answer the questions the report raises.

Finally, *The Musket* would like to remind all its readers that this is at best a summary of a very important publication, and that the report itself should be read in full by the entire Lexington community.